

NEWSLETTER NO. 38 TUESDAY NOVEMBER 24th 2015

Dear God,
because you love us so much you sent your only
Son into the world to do what is right
and treat people fairly.
Help us to prepare for his coming with joyful and
humble hearts.
May your love be with us always and bring peace
and joy to all your people around the world,
as we wait in hope for the coming of
your Son Jesus.
We ask this through him, who lives with you and
the Holy Spirit, forever and ever.
Amen.



THE FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT

Next Sunday our Church starts the preparation phase for the celebration of Christmas in a little under a month. Over history preparing for key events or celebrations is as important as the actual activity. It allows us to think and engage with the main ideas and for us to get a handle on how they impact us. At a time when the messages from our society about Christmas are overwhelmingly about commercial things it might be a good time to stop and reflect on what the celebration of the birth of Jesus means. From Sunday our Parish will add a very deliberate Advent message to its celebrations. It might be an interesting thing to do at home as well.

PARISH MASS THANKS

A big thank you to all involved in the Mass on Sunday. The involvement with the Parish by our children is always appreciated and welcomed. Our plan is to participate in Masses on Sundays again next year.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTATION WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 9TH

Each year we spend some time preparing for the celebration of Christmas by putting together a presentation that highlights the important points of the Christmas story. This is an important thing to do as we are bombarded with the secular trappings of the Christmas holiday and sometimes the reason for us celebrating is lost. This presentation is planned for 11:15am on Wednesday December 9th and will be held in Our Lady's Church. Please feel most welcome to join us.

END OF YEAR MASS

Our End of Year Mass will be held on Tuesday December 15th at 7.00pm – all families are expected to attend this celebration. At this Mass we will thank and bless our Year Six children, farewell our families finishing their primary school journey and give thanks for what our school year has given us.

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

Our Lady's Parish holds a Mass each Christmas Eve that is a family celebration. Children and families are encouraged to dress up (soldiers, shepherds, Mary, Joseph, villagers etc.) and to be involved in the liturgy. It would be great if we could have an indication if your child will be attending so that we could ask them to undertake a task on the night. Mass will commence at 6.30pm.

WANGARATTA PARISH MASSES

Masses for this weekend are:

* Saturday	6.00 pm	St Patrick's
* Sunday	8.00 am	St Patrick's
* Sunday	9.00 am	Our Lady's
* Sunday	10.00 am	Moyhu
* Sunday	10.30 am	Whitfield (1st Sunday)
* Sunday	10.30 am	St Patrick's
* Sunday	5.00 pm	Latin Mass at St Patrick's

SWIMMING

There will be another swimming session for all students tomorrow, Wednesday November 25th. Please make sure your child/children have all the necessary swimming gear with them.

PUPIL FREE DAY

We have another **Pupil Free Day** this coming **Monday November 30th**. Staff will use the day to plan and prepare for 2016.

2016 CLASSES

At last week's School Board meeting we presented our staff arrangements for 2016. We are lucky to have a very dedicated group of workers who provide great care for the students at the school.

Next year promises to be a little different as three out of the four learning areas –Discovery, Bridging and Leadership- will have two teachers working with the whole group of students in that area. Whilst teachers will have a dedicated group that they will monitor closely, the students will work with all staff members in the area depending on the learning activity that is taking place.

The staff group and roles for 2016 are as follows:

Grade Area	Staff Members
Foundation	Annabel Carmody, Netti Attard
Discovery One / Two	Laura Antonello, Liz Field, Danni Dacre, Christie Draper
Bridging Three / Four	Cathie Walsh, Greg Young, Jenny Kittelty, Celia Craven
Leadership 5/6	Josh Naish, Lynda Griffin
Reading Recovery / Special Education	Sue Ryan
Arts	Melissa Harper, Brigid Malcolm
Italian	Lucia Alesiani
Library	Rosie Pane
Administration	Julie McMonigle
Cleaning	Deb Plecas
Occupational Therapy	Libby Wall
Speech Therapy	Molly Milligan

ASSESSMENT

Over the past few weeks we have been conducting one of our end of year assessment tasks which is the Progressive Achievement Test (PAT) for the Australian Council of Educational Research. We call it a summative assessment as we use it as part of our learning information that sums up the work of the year.

These are two online tests in reading and maths that give us an insight into the learning growth across the last twelve months. What we are hoping to see is that the children's results stay in the same band from year to year as the tests are different for each grade. This shows that they are learning at the rate that is expected for their year level. It also allows us to look at any areas where they are doing well or need challenging in so that this can be built into the program for coming years.

It is great to see the excitement of the children about their learning and that so many of them are aiming to improve where they can.

END OF DAY EXIT FROM CAR PARK – TURN LEFT

A reminder that if you are leaving the carpark via White Street at the end of the day, when traffic is heavy, the best thing to do is to turn left. Turning right can hold up the pick-up process and can result in a standstill and possibly a very dangerous situation. If you need to head towards Murdoch Road you can then simply turn around at the roundabout at Yarrunga Primary School and head back up White Street. At most other times during the day exiting right from the carpark is not an issue.

SCHOOL BOARD/P & F END OF YEAR DINNER

Our annual night out will be held on Friday December 11th at the Town N Country Tavern (corner Greta Road and Mason Street) at 6.30pm. Everyone is welcome to come along. You are asked to pay for your own meal with the school running a small bar tab for the night. We need definite numbers by Wednesday December 9th – please let Julie know if you intend coming along by this date.

2015 DIRECT DEBITING

The final Direct Debiting payments for 2015 will be made in the next week or so. We thank those families who have used this facility this year and encourage other families to consider using Direct Debiting in 2016.

2016 SCHOOL FEES & LEVIES

All families should have now received their 2016 Fee Letter – some were sent home last week and the rest have been sent home today with the eldest child in each family.

Each family is asked to complete, sign and return their 2016 Commitment form (attached to their letter), to the office by THIS Friday November 27th 2015.

SCHOOL APP

We would like as many families as possible to download our new school app (details of how to do this are further along in the newsletter)– you can access newsletters as well as other information about school events. Please feel free to let us know what you think about the app.

2016 NEWSLETTERS

Whilst 2016 is probably not on everyone's radar just yet, we really need **every family** to respond to our request regarding how you will receive your newsletters from 2016. Thanks to those families who have already sent in their response however there are still about 70 families yet to reply.

You need to choose either to use our new app (instructions on how to download this are once again included in today's newsletter) or have the newsletter emailed to you each week.

NO PAPERS COPIES WILL BE SENT HOME WITH STUDENTS

Please either

- complete the form further along in the newsletter and return it to the office or
- email your response to Julie at jmcmnig@olwangeratta.catholic.edu.au

MAKING JESUS REAL FOCUS

Each week we have a focus for where we can work to have others see Jesus in us. This week the focus is 'win the hard ball' which is doing the hard things when needed.

ASSEMBLY THANK YOU

At our start of week Assembly we take the time to give thanks for a number of actions or efforts members of our community make. Expressing thanks allows us to acknowledge actions that help us and to highlight language and actions that we would like to see happen in the future. They often relate to our expectations from last week or to events that students were involved in. This week we give thanks for:

- To those students complete as much of the work as they can
- To everyone who allows other learners get the learning
- To all who understand that keeping your hands to yourself is a great way to deal with problems
- To everyone who made positive safety decisions at swimming
- For the positive behaviour choices, when attending Aladdin, that allowed us to be safe and happy
- To Galen for generously inviting us to Aladdin
- To the helpers at Mass on Sunday for respectful way they did their jobs

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

Our expectations focus for this week is 'Choosing to do my best allows us all to learn, be safe and happy':

Be Ready to Learn: By doing my best in all my learning opportunities

Be Responsible: By knowing that we learn best when we do our best
Being a play problem solver

Be Respectful: By celebrating when our classmates do their best
Knowing where we run and where we walk

Power Play Focus: **Students who continually do their best**

Congratulations to Thomas Chambeyron who was the winner of last week's Power Play Raffle.

END OF 2015

Just some advance notice that the students' final day at school for 2015 will be Thursday, December 17th - they will finish at 3.10pm as normal. Staff will finish up on Friday December 18th.

Mark

FOUNDATION (PREP) CENTRE NEWS

The weeks are flying by...only four weeks of Foundies to go!

We are preparing for some major events in our school calendar at the moment including our presentation of the Christmas Story which is on Wednesday December 9th at 11:15am. Hopefully we will see lots families at this event as the children have put lots of effort into preparing for it and will be excited to see you there.

We also have our End of Year Mass coming up on Tuesday December 15th at 7.00pm. All Foundies are expected to attend this end of year celebration.

Tomorrow we have the second of our three swimming sessions. The Foundies should bring their **swimmers, towel, old t-shirt** and **thongs or sandals**. We will get changed at school before catching the bus to the pool.

On Thursday we are having a second visit from the 2016 Foundies. They will be with us from 9.00am-11.00am.

LEARNING THIS WEEK:

Maths: This week we will be focussing on problem solving strategies and interpreting the best way to solve a 'real life' problem. For example 'We have invited 5 people to our party and they all will eat 2 sandwiches...how many sandwiches will we need?'

Literacy: Our Literacy this week will be based around the story of Jesus' birth. We will complete a story map to retell the story and use Godly Play to explore oral retelling of a story.

Religious Education: Most of our Religious Education time this week will be spent preparing for the Christmas Story presentation. We will also be learning about how Advent is a time of waiting and preparing.

Thanks
Annabel and Netti

DISCOVERY (ONE/TWO) CENTRE NEWS

Welcome to Week Eight, with just four weeks to go until the end of the year!

Students should have brought home Teacher Advisor notes for parents to choose a time that suits. We have received most of these notes back, however there are still a number of students who have not done this. If parents would like to call up and arrange a time, this is fine. If we do not receive a note back, we will allocate families with a time to come in and hope that we can meet with you then. It's a great opportunity to meet and discuss student transition, as well as anything parents may wish to pass on to teachers and vice versa. Notes will be sent home this week with times on them for each family.

Tomorrow, we will be swimming at Moore Than Swimming again. Please ensure students have their swimming gear with them so that we can be organised and ready to go.

1/2 Antonello will be hosting Assembly this Thursday. Any families who wish to attend may do so. We will be holding Assembly in Our Lady's Church at 2.00pm. On Friday, the Community Connect leadership group will also be holding 'Our Lady's Got Talent' at 12.30pm in the Pat Reidy Shed. Some students are already busy practicing their routines. There will be prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd. You are most welcome to come along.

A reminder that next Monday November 30th is another Pupil Free Day. This is a planning day scheduled for teachers to organise themselves for 2016.

DISCOVERY (ONE/TWO) CENTRE NEWS (cont...)

In the classroom this week:

Literacy: We will be involved in Spelling Groups this week, where students will be working in groups that are reading high frequency words, spelling high frequency words and understanding different homophones and where we would use them. We will also continue writing procedural texts, where students are writing steps of something they know how to do, as well as the materials that will be required to make the item. Students will be given the chance to swap their procedural texts over and have their peers attempt to complete the procedure and make the item.

Maths: We will continue learning about multiplication through playing games such as 'multiplication bump', looking at multiplying by 2's, 3's, 4's, 5's and 10's. Students will also play a game where they are given an amount of blocks and they are to separate those blocks into equal groups and then write the multiplication sum that matches that arrangement. We will also work our way through various worded questions requiring the use of multiplication.

Religious Education: Today, we practiced for our Assembly scheduled for later this week. Students will read the Christmas story and create a Y chart looking at the experience of the Three Kings. To conclude the week we will be taking part in an art activity, where we will be painting the Three Kings.

Inquiry: Students will continue working in their groups and create their keynote, poster, radio advertisement and TV commercial in relation to their chosen area of safety – Sun, Water or Road safety.

Have a great week
Laura, Josh and Danni

BRIDGING (THREE/FOUR) CENTRE NEWS

Welcome to Week Eight.

Last Wednesday we had the first of our swimming sessions and will go again tomorrow. Students will need to bring their bathers, towel, an old t-shirt and pair of thongs (to wear to and from the pool) in a plastic bag.

In Literacy we continue our writing focus on poetry. This week we will continue to read poetry and will write a diamantes poem. A diamantes poem is an unrhymed seven-line poem. Our focus in punctuation is apostrophes of a contraction e.g. can't & didn't. We are revising spelling words this week; the children will choose their own words from their previous spelling lists. Word families are the focus in grammar this week.

In Maths this week our unit is on fractions where we model and represent fractions including $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{5}$ and their multiples to a complete whole.

This week in Religious Education we continue the new unit 'Christmas the Message of Joy and Peace'. The children will imagine that they are in Bethlehem at the time of Jesus' birth and write a newspaper article. We are also very busy practicing for our end of year Christmas presentation that will be held on Wednesday December 9th at 11.15am at Our Lady's Church. Everyone is welcome to attend.

During Inquiry this week we are looking at Christmas in Canada and Japan. The children will be creating an origami Christmas tree. We will also continue working on Christmas around the world keynotes.

Have a great week!
Liz, Cathie, Jenny & Celia

LEADERSHIP (FIVE/SIX) CENTRE NEWS

Welcome to Week Eight - only four left until we are at the end of another school year.

Sincere thanks to all those students and families who were able to attend the Rural City of Wangaratta's Anzac Commemoration. Most of my students were able to attend and as their teacher I was bursting with admiration and pride. They truly are an amazing group of students and that's coming from an old timer who thought he'd seen it all! Their confidence, pride and enthusiasm rang true throughout the evening's proceedings and they were a credit to their family and school. Many people have contacted me over the past week full of praise and gratitude for these remarkable children. Well done everyone!!! Your light shone brightly!!!

Christie and I have been very busy testing our students over the past few weeks. We have been using the ACER online assessment tasks to test each child's numeracy skills and reading comprehension. Their results are then compared to their previous year's assessment to determine growth and development. Students' spelling development is also assessed using the South Australian Spelling Test and Peter's Dictation. Both tests were also administered in March and November's results will be compared to determine growth. Students will also sit a Writing Assessment Task this week which will once again form the basis of a comparative tool to assess growth over the past few years. All results will form the basis of this year's final report at our next Parent / Student / Teacher Advisor Meetings. Please remember to return your preferred time 'slip' ASAP so that I may try to accommodate everyone's needs.

Website of the Week: <https://ibt.acer.edu.au/practice-papers> ACER Test Papers -This will give you an example of the online testing procedures.

Kind regards
Greg & Christie

P & F NEWS

BOOKFAIR

Thanks to everyone who supported last week's Book Fair. Thanks also to Franca Villella for once again co-ordinating this event. Rosie has selected books to the value of approximately \$200-00 for the Library.

FUNFAIR NEWS

TUPPERWARE FUNDRAISER

Orders and payment for Tupperware are due into the office tomorrow- Wednesday November 25th.

2016 NEWSLETTERS

I/We _____ (Family Name) would prefer to receive my/our newsletter either by (please circle one preference):

- via school app
- via email _____ (email address)

Name _____

Signed _____

Date _____

Please return your completed form to the office by Friday December 4th 2015.

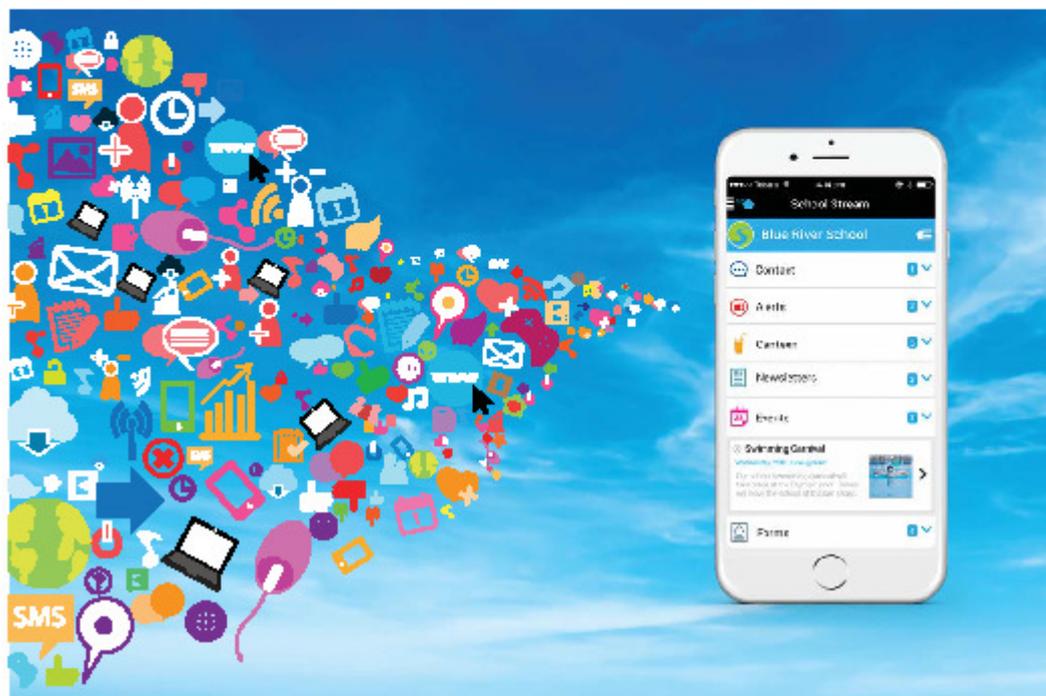
ALL families are required to respond.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday	November 25 th	Swimming – all classes <i>Students to bring bathers, towel, tshirt and thongs to school in a plastic bag</i>
Thursday	November 26 th	Transition Session 9.00am to 11.00am for 2016 Foundation Students
Friday	November 27 th	‘Our Lady’s Got Talent’ 12.30pm <i>All Welcome</i>
Monday	November 30th	2016 Planning Day – Pupil Free Day
Wednesday	December 2 nd	Swimming – all classes <i>Students to bring bathers, towel, tshirt and thongs to school in a plastic bag</i>
Friday	December 4 th	Transition Session 2.00pm to 3.00pm for 2016 Foundation Students
Monday	December 7 th	Foundation/Discovery Centre Students End of Year Excursion
Tuesday	December 8 th	Orientation Day – All students 2016 Foundation Orientation Day 9.00am to 12noon Information Evening for 2016 Foundation Parents 7.00pm
Wednesday	December 9 th	Christmas Presentation in Our Lady’s Church 11.15am <i>All Welcome</i>
Tuesday	December 15 th	End of Year/Graduation Mass 7.00pm <i>All students expected to attend</i>
Wednesday	December 16 th	Grade Six ‘Big Day Out’
Thursday	December 17 th	Last day for 2015 for students 3.10pm finish
Friday	December 18 th	Last day for 2015 for staff
Wednesday	January 27 th 2016	First day Term One 2016 for staff
Thursday	January 28 th 2016	First day of Term One 2016 for students in Years 1 to 6
Friday	January 29 th 2016	First day of Term One 2016 for Foundation students 9.00am to 1.00pm
SATURDAY	MARCH 19TH 2016	TWILIGHT FUNFAIR 5.00PM TO 9.00PM

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Receive school information, instantly and directly to your smartphone



How to download your **FREE** app

- 1 From your mobile device go to the **App Store (iPhone/iPad)** OR **Google Play (Android)** search for **School Stream** and download the app to your phone
- 2 Make sure you agree to **push notifications**
- 3 Once School Stream has finished installing, open the app, type your school name into the search **THEN** select your school

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